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August 6, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Art Unit: 1637
Examiner: C.B. Wilder
Conf. No.: 4899

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/531,113 filed March 22, 2000
Inventors: Joseph R. BYRUM *et al.*
Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with Plants
Atty. Dkt: 16517.313

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) are the following documents:

1. Response to Office Action mailed May 6, 2004; and
2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any additional fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.313. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Thomas E. Holsten and David R. Marsh.

Thomas E. Holsten (Reg. No. 46,098)
David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)

Enclosures



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Joseph R. BYRUM *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/531,113

Filed: March 22, 2000

Confirmation No.: 4899

Art Unit: 1637

Examiner: Cynthia B. Wilder

Atty. Docket: 16517.313

For: **Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with Plants**

Response to Office Action mailed May 6, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn: Mail Stop Amendment

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 6, 2004, (hereinafter "Office Action"), Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.